This time limit applied even in cases in which the aggrieved party had not been a party to, or had no notice or knowledge of, the proceedings. He said that that was highly injurious and was a violation of recognised principles of law, that there was no reason why the ordinary period of limitation should be curtailed where the Government officers went wrong and that the object of nullifying the effect of a ruling of the High Court through legislative interference should certainly be discouraged. The Member, therefore, proposed that the Bill might be dropped.

Dewan's reply.—The suggestions of the Member in regard to the draft Puduval Rules will be considered before the Rules are issued. In regard to the Land Assignment Bill, the observations of the Member will be considered by the Legislative Council.

8. Grievances as regards puduval registry.

Mr. P. Kesava Pillai (Member, Nedumangad Taluk) admitted the necessity for the revision of the Rules, but thought that the Revised Rules, as now framed, would do more harm than good. If lands were put up to auction in 10 acre blocks, as contemplated in Rule 12, the local ryot would have no chance of getting any land as against the foreign capitalist. The Rules would not help to build up a prosperous peasantry. The policy of selling lands in auction should be changed. Rule 17 dealt with the registry of occupied lands. The Rule did not specify what would be regarded as valuable improvements. It would cause severe hardship, if improvements were taken to mean only cocoanut, areca and other cultivation. In the Nedumangad taluk especially, all lands were not suited for such cultivation, and generally tapioca, hill paddy and vegetables were being cultivated after clearing the undergrowth. The Rules should specifically provide for the treatment of such cultivation as valuable improvements. Provision should also be made in the Rules for giving the registry-holder the option to take registry of the land alone, without paying for the tree growth, and for the Government removing the tree growth within two years from the lands in cases where he did not purchase it. The *tharavila* and *thadivila* should be separately fixed in registering puduval lands. Rule 19 which required payment also for the trees cut and removed before the registry would lead to untold oppression by the Provertikar. The data relating to the height, *vannam*, etc., of such trees were uncertain, and the registry-holder would have to pay for timber removed by a prior occupant. The duty of protecting the royal trees on the land imposed on the registry-holder would lead to oppression by the Provertikar, and it was hard to impose on him that responsibility without paying him at least half the value realised by their sale. The clause should be deleted. The restriction against alienation of lands registered under Rule 24 on concessional terms to members of the depressed classes contained in Rule 28 was not justifiable. Lands on which substantial improvements had been made became heritable family property and should be freely alienable. The Rule should be so amended as to make alienations of such lands inoperative only during a period of fifteen years after the date of the grant. Logically, the concession allowed by Rule 53 to pay the *tharavila* in instalments in cases where it exceeded Rs. 1,000 should be confined to cases below that amount so as to benefit the really deserving. Rule 57 was in no way acceptable, as it would vitiate the entire puduval policy. The Government should have discretion to register occupied land only to a Travancorean. The rates of *tharavila* and *thadivila* should not be raised as proposed in the draft Rules. Even the existing rates should be reduced. Puduval lands should not be assigned to non-Travancoreans. No individual should be allowed to obtain registry of more than fifty acres; and, among applicants, those who owned less than 50 acres should have preference. No *tharavila* and *thadivila* should be realised from members belonging to the depressed classes. The rates of *tharavila* should be reduced.

Dewan's reply.—The Rules published are only in the draft stage. All the suggestions made by the Member will be carefully considered.

9. Certain suggestions regarding the Draft Puduval Rules.

Mr. Ittiavira Thomas (Member, Peermade Taluk) made the following observations about the draft Rules, and said that they were the views of himself and a number of people in his locality. The proposal to sell puduval lands generally by auction

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